

La Costa Avenue Improvement Plan

Doug Bilse, T.E.
Senior Traffic Engineer

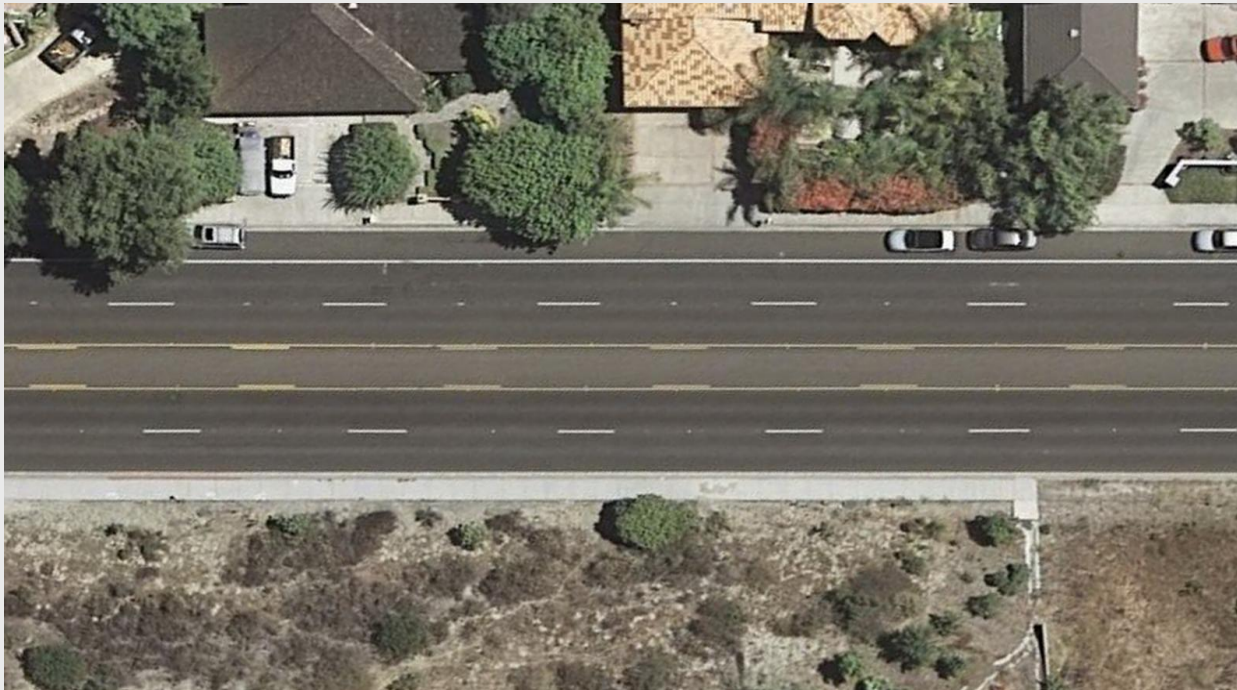
Pat Noyes
Pat Noyes & Associates

La Costa Avenue Study Area: El Camino Real to Rancho Santa Fe Road



La Costa Avenue Quality of Life Issues

- Speed & volume
- Congestion
- Sight distance
- Diverted traffic



How We Got Here

- City previously worked with a select group of residents along La Costa Avenue to address safety concerns
- Initial studies will provide base data for this community-focused planning process
- Initial efforts by the City to address safety include speed displays and increased enforcement
- General Plan update expected to create multi-modal standards introducing quality of life issues

Study Objective

- Develop a cost effective, community-preferred plan to address traffic speeds and safety on La Costa Avenue in a way that respects the residential character and arterial function of the roadway

La Costa Proposed Planning Process

- Community survey
- Three community meetings
 - April 28
 - May 26
 - June 23
- Update public throughout process – mailings & website
- Present preferred plan to Traffic Safety Commission
- City Council acceptance
- General Plan and environmental review

3 Community Meetings

- Open to public
- Develop vision for La Costa Avenue
- Build consensus



Community Meeting #1 Objectives

- Define problem
- Determine objectives
- Present design elements
- Discuss preferences



Community Meeting #2 Objectives

- Review concept plans
- What works, what doesn't
- Determine preferences
- Evolve new concepts

Community Meeting #3 Objectives

- Review, revise and finalize preferred concept plan
- Discuss phasing and funding options as needed

Considerations for La Costa Avenue

- Secondary arterial
- Residential frontage
- Speed
- Safety
- Emergency response
- Bikes and pedestrians
- Cost of improvements
- Enforcement



La Costa Avenue Traffic Data

- Average daily traffic – 12,200-17,900
- Posted speed – 45 mph
- 85th percentile speed –45-47 mph
- 10 mph pace speed –38-48 mph
- Collision rate – 1.16 c/mvm

Survey Responses

- Total responses – 824
- Question 1: Traffic issues - very concerned about:
 - Traffic speeds - 50%
 - Pedestrian safety - 47%
 - Bicycle safety - 56%
 - Traffic noise – 22%
 - Availability of on-street parking - 7%
 - Operation of on-street parking - 9%
 - Street maintenance - 28%
 - Street landscaping – 19%

Survey Responses

- Question 2: Driving concerns
 - Visibility - 57%
 - Street width - 32%
 - Signing - 18%
 - Traffic speeds – 67%
 - Right-of-way controls – 32%
 - Street curvature and grades – 38%

Survey Responses

- Question 3: Household activities
 - Walking/jogging – 38%
 - Bicycling – 29%
 - Driving – 92%

Survey Responses

- Question 4: School children travel (106 households)
 - Automobile – 76%
 - Walking – 42%
 - Bicycling – 21%

Survey Responses

- Question 5: Appropriate devices for La Costa Avenue
 - Signs– 51%
 - Pavement markings – 40%
 - Landscaping – 37%
 - Pedestrian crossings – 40%
 - Sidewalks– 49%
 - Physical changes to the street– 31%
 - Raised medians– 30%

Design Elements to Consider

- Roundabouts
- Bulb outs
- Medians
- Bike lanes
- Sidewalks
- Striping
- Signals
- Other ideas



Roundabouts

- Alternative to signals at intersections
- Accommodate traffic flow on La Costa and side street
- Provide landscaping opportunities



Bulb Outs

- Narrow the street width
- Improves safety for pedestrian crossings
- Shadows parking
- Provide landscaping opportunities



Medians

- Provide visual break in the center of the street
- Restrict turns
- Provide refuge for pedestrians and turning vehicles
- Provide landscaping opportunities



Striping / Lane Reconfiguration

Existing:

- Four through lanes
- Parking lane
- Center turn lane



Reduced Lanes:

- Two through lanes
- Bike lanes
- Parking and turn lanes



Guidelines for Effective Improvements

- Regular and frequent pattern
- Devices shift traffic lanes
- Landscaping



Cost of La Costa Avenue Improvements

- \$1,000,000 - \$4,000,000
- Cost depends on the number and type of devices
- Landscaping increases capital and maintenance cost
- Cost effectiveness of devices important to planning process
- Discuss project phasing and alternative funding sources
- Current CIP has \$1M allocated for proposed signals

Work Stations

- Map stations around this room
 - Provide specific information about concerns
- Display boards in the other room
 - Information about the different devices
- Comment sheets and surveys
 - Comment sheets on the issues and devices
 - Blank surveys for anyone who has not completed one